

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 94-248-C - ORDER NO. 94-546
JUNE 8, 1994

IN RE: Business Telecommunications, Inc. -) ORDER
Proposal for Revisions to its S.C.) APPROVING
Tariff to Introduce Pre-Paid Calling) REVISIONS
Service as a New Offering.) TO TARIFF

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Application of Business Telecommunications, Inc. (BTI or the Company) for revisions to its South Carolina Telecommunications Tariff to introduce Pre-Paid Calling Service as a new offering.

By letter dated April 7, 1994, the Commission's Executive Director instructed the Company to cause to be published a prepared Notice of Filing one-time in a newspaper of general circulation in the area affected by the Company's Application. The Notice of Filing indicated the nature of the Company's Application and advised all interested parties desiring participation in the scheduled proceeding of the manner and time of which to file the appropriate pleadings. The Company furnished affidavits demonstrating that the Notice had been duly published in accordance with the instructions of the Executive Director. A Petition to Intervene was filed by the Consumer Advocate for the State of South Carolina.

Subsequently, the Consumer Advocate for the State of South Carolina, on May 27, 1994, sent a letter to the Commission stating

that it had reviewed BTI's request to offer debit card services in this Docket, finds the offering to be consistent with such services approved by the Commission in prior proceedings. Therefore, the Consumer Advocate evidenced his wish not to participate in the hearing scheduled in the matter. Considering that the only Intervenor has moved to withdraw participation, the Commission shall proceed to consider the matter without formal hearing.

Pre-Paid Calling Service by BTI is a pre-paid long distance calling service which enables end users to purchase calling cards in several pre-determined amounts for long distance usage. End users access the service through dialing an 800 number and an authorization code. Usage is automatically deducted from the remaining card balance as end users access the service. When the card balance reaches 0, the end users must purchase another card or have the card recharged, pursuant to instructions the Company provides to end users purchasing the card. Certain provisions for refunds are also included in the proposed tariff.

The Commission shall require BTI to post a bond prior to receiving certification. Due to the nature of the service proposed by BTI where a subscriber must pay for services before the services are rendered, this Commission believes that a bond is necessary for the protection of the subscribers in South Carolina. Therefore, the Commission requires as a condition to the granting of the approval that BTI post a bond with the Commission by delivering to the Commission Certificates of Deposit, in the amount of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars, and drawn in the name of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. The Certificates of Deposit

shall be drawn on federal or state chartered banks or savings and loan associations which maintain an office in this State and whose accounts are insured by either the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation. After twelve (12) months from the date of this Order, the Commission will review the Company's financial reports and reassess the requirement of BTI maintaining a bond.

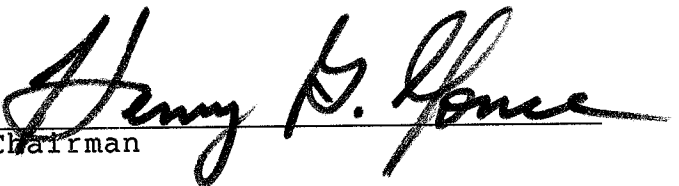
The Commission has considered this matter and believes that the tariff should be approved, and the Commission believes that approval of this prepaid calling service is in the public interest, and that the service is a useful one to the members of the community. The Commission also believes, however, that the bond requirement is necessary for the protection of the public.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

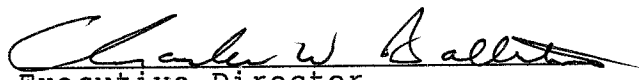
1. The Consumer Advocate shall hereby be allowed to withdraw his participation in this matter.
2. The tariff is approved, however, BTI shall comply with the bonding provisions as indicated above.

3. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)